

The disbursement of pension to inferior servants.

2. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state why no pension is disbursed to pensioners receiving pensions less than Rs. 10 per mensem before the 5th of every month? Will the Government be pleased to make arrangements to disburse these amounts even on the first of every month to avoid hardship and inconvenience?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—This was one of the arrangements made to relieve the congestion of work in the treasuries during the first few days of the month. The Government do not think that this arrangement now causes any inconvenience to pensioners, since, after the first month of introduction of this rule, disbursements are made regularly at intervals of a month. The Member is also referred to the answer to question 7 (c).

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Am I to understand from the answer that, when once the Government makes delay in the payment of these poor pensioners, they can continue this delay?

President.—The point of the answer is this. Of course, in the first month there will be delay. They will get their pay on the 5th. After that there will be no delay.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—They are entitled to get the pension on the 1st.

President.—Why is it that they are not given pension on the 1st?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—There is very heavy work. So, in 1099, an order was issued. Of course, it is very hard, and we are taking necessary action in the matter.

The certificates of the X-Ray expert.

3. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the certificate obtained by the officer appointed by the Government in Meenam 1100 to the X-Ray department, General Hospital, Ernakulam, with regard to his proficiency or training in X-Ray?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Copies of the certificates are appended. (*Vide Appendix 1.*)

The qualifications of the X-Ray expert.

4. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(1) What are the qualifications of Dr. T. Verghese in the X Ray work?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table the copies of certificates, if any, showing that he has special training in X-Ray work?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) The question has been already answered; vide page 23 of Vol. I and pages 1151 and 1152 of Vol. II of *the Council Proceedings*.

(2) Vide answer to question 3.

The creation of a fresh Civil Surgeon's post.

5. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that an Assistant Surgeon of the Medical Department who has recently returned from England has requested the Government to create for him a Civil Surgeon's post?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

6. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has not recommended the creation of another Civil Surgeon's post for this gentleman?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

7. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has come to any conclusion in the matter? If so, will the Government be pleased to state what its conclusion is?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No answer is called for.

8. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—In view of the opinion widely expressed in the Legislative Council that the Medical Department was overmanned and top-heavy and the enquiry of the Special Finance Committee, will the Government be pleased to keep the matter in abeyance until the Committee has reported?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Government may be trusted to exercise their discretion in the matter in the best possible manner.

9. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are not in the State Medical Department Assistant Surgeons with European qualifications who are senior to the Assistant Surgeon Dr. T. Bhaskara Menon, who are still where they were before they went to England?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes; but not of equal qualifications.